

ASK AMY

Your Insight into the TBI Fund

Dear Amy,

My case manager is supposed to come out and visit me in October. Does that mean I am going to have my case heard at the next Committee meeting in December?

- Kiernan from Little Falls

Dear Kiernan,

No matter what time of the year, the month or the TBI Fund Review Committee cycle, your requests must be clear and complete before they will be heard by the Committee. Here is what I mean:

When your case manager comes to help you figure out what the Fund can do for you, he or she may ask for some additional information and documentation. You may need to provide letters of recommendation or prescriptions from doctors or therapists. You may be asked questions about how your request relates to your brain injury symptoms. We may need to understand what other programs and services you are receiving before we can consider your requests.

All of these additional steps do take time, and once

the case manager sends your requests to the Fund, we review the "support plan" that is created. We may then have some more questions or may require further clarification on certain things. Once your requests are clear and well-documented, they will be heard by the Review Committee.

Keep in mind that there are deadlines for documentation as well, which are usually set before the scheduled meeting. For instance, if there is a Committee meeting scheduled for December 16th, the deadline for all of your requests and supporting documentation is exactly four weeks before (November 14th).

What all of this means is this: your requests may or may not be heard at the very next Committee meeting in December. If you are unsure of whether or not your case is being heard by the Committee, please contact your case manager for more information.

Amy Taklif is the TBI Specialist for the Division of Disability Services and serves as consultant to The Traumatic Brain Injury Fund. She is a certified social worker who has worked with people who have acquired brain injury for several years. Mrs. Taklif has a background in cognitive remediation and disability advocacy.

If you have a question you would like to Ask Amy, please write to her at:

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Ask Amy is a column of:



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